

What is claimed is:

1. A nest for holding an integrated circuit during testing, comprising:

a plate having a front side and a back side,

(30) a cavity in the plate for receiving an integrated circuit having a plurality of pins;

(32) a channel within the plate for receiving therein an anvil; and

(34) an anvil detachably engaged within the channel, positioned to engage the pins of the integrated circuit and to maintain the pins in alignment.

2. The nest of Claim 1 wherein the nest comprises a material selected from the group consisting of aluminum, steel, or Torlon®

3. The nest of Claim 1 wherein the nest is designed to seat a Quad Flat Pack packaged integrated circuit.

4. The nest of Claim 1 wherein the anvil comprises a non-conductive, non-corrosive, frictionless material.

5. The nest of Claim 5 wherein the anvil comprises a material selected from the group consisting of Torlon® and Vespel®.

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6. A system for testing an integrated circuit comprising:  
a test head having at least one contact point;  
a handler for placing the integrated circuit in a position for testing;  
and  
5 a nest connected to the handler for holding an integrated circuit  
during testing, comprising:  
a plate having a front side and a back side,  
a cavity in the plate for receiving an integrated circuit having  
10 a plurality of pins;  
a channel for receiving therein an anvil; and  
an anvil detachably engaged within the channel, positioned  
to engage the pins of the integrated circuit and to maintain the pins in  
15 alignment.

7. The system of Claim 6 wherein the anvil is slidably attached within the channel.

- 20 8. The system of Claim 6 wherein the anvil is comprised of a non-conductive, non-corrosive, frictionless material.

9. The system of Claim 8 wherein the anvil is comprised of Torlon®.

- 25 10. The system of Claim 8 wherein the anvil is comprised of Vespel®.

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11. The system of Claim 6 wherein the nest comprises a material selected from the group consisting of aluminum, steel, or Torlon®.

12. The system of Claim 6 wherein the handler comprises an arbor having a vacuum device for placing the integrated circuit in position for testing.

13. The system of Claim 12 wherein the arbor is designed to hold a vacuum cap.

14. The system of Claim 6 wherein the nest further comprises a means for connecting the nest to the handler.

15. The system of claim 14 wherein the means for connecting are screws.

16. The nest of Claim 6 wherein the nest is designed to seat a Quad Flat Pack (QFP) packaged integrated circuit.

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